

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 188417

12  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011  
DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:RBELL  
APPROVED BY:S/S-O:MTANNER  
----- 066523

R 292331Z JUL 76  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
INFO CINCEUR  
USNMR SHAPE  
CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188417

EXDIS MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY BONN GERMANY 12779  
DTG 291702Z JUL 76 SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC AMEMBASSY  
LISBON PORTUGAL INFO EMBASSY LONDON EMBASSY MADRID EMBASSY  
MOSCOW AMCONSUL OPORTO EMBASSY PARIS AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
EMBASSY ROME EMBASSY STOCKHOLM USMISSION NATO

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12779

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS: CINC EUR VAIHINGEN, USNMR SHAPE,  
DIA WASHDC, CINC USAF RAMSTEIN, CSAF WASHDC. MILITARY  
ADDEES TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE.

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MILI, PO, GW  
SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE G-91'S GROUNDED

REF: LISBON 5078 DTG 281614Z JUL 76  
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1. THE GERMANS CONSIDER THE STORY ABOUT THE "GROUNDED" PORTUGUESE G-91'S (REFTEL) AS NOTHING MORE THAN A BLACKMAIL ATTEMPT BY THE PORTUGUESE TO EXTRACT MONEY TO PAY FOR THE AIRCRAFT OVERHAULS REQUIRED. THIS WAS THE REACTION WE RECEIVED WHEN WE RAISED THE MATTER IN A LOW-KEY MANNER WITH A SENIOR DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIAL.

2. THE OFFICIAL REPORTED THAT ALL OF THE AIRCRAFT DELIVERED HAVE MORE THAN A THOUSAND HOURS OF FLYING TIME LEFT ON THEM. THIS EQUATES TO AN OPERATIONAL LIFE OF ABOUT SIX YEARS. WHEN THE AIRCRAFT WERE DELIVERED, THE GERMANS ALSO PROVIDED THE NECESSARY SPARE PARTS FOR OVERHAUL. THE OFFICIAL STATED THAT THIS WAS SPECIFIED IN A WRITTEN CONTRACT WITH THE PORTUGUESE WHO ACCEPTED FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING THE NECESSARY REPAIRS. THE GERMANS DO NOT BELIEVE THE PORTUGUESE LACK THE TECHNICAL CAPABILITY FOR OVERHAULING G-91'S SINCE THE PAF HAS HAD SUCH AIRCRAFT IN ITS INVENTORY.

3. AS FAR AS BONN IS CONCERNED, THE GERMANS INTEND TO ADOPT A "WAIT AND SEE ATTITUDE" SINCE THE PORTUGUESE COMPLAINT ABOUT THE G-91'S HAS NOT OFFICIALLY BEEN BROUGHT TO FRG ATTENTION. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THEY ARE IN A RELATIVELY STRONG POSITION ON THE BASIS OF THE WRITTEN CONTRACT IN WHICH THE PORTUGUESE ACCEPTED FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE REPAIR WORK.

HILLENBRAND UNQUOTE  
KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, SPARE PARTS, AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**To:** USCINCEUR USNMR SHAPE  
**Type:** TE  
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